

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1. (previously presented) A method of operating a self-service checkout terminal comprising the steps of:

allowing consumer scanning of an item for purchase via a scanner;

determining, after successfully scanning the item, whether the item has an active electronic article surveillance tag; and

allowing deactivation of the active electronic article surveillance tag by the consumer via an active electronic article surveillance tag deactivator after determining that the item has an electronic article surveillance tag.

Claim 2. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of determining whether the item has an active electronic article surveillance tag includes the step of utilizing an electronic article surveillance detector.

Claim 3. (previously presented) The method of claim 2, wherein the step of utilizing an electronic article surveillance detector, includes utilizing the electronic article surveillance detector that is associated with the scanner.

Claim 4. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of determining whether the electronic article surveillance tag has been deactivated after the step of allowing deactivation of the active electronic article surveillance tag after determining that the item includes the electronic article surveillance tag.

Claim 5. (original) The method of claim 4, wherein the step of determining whether the electronic article surveillance tag has been deactivated includes the step of utilizing a second electronic article surveillance detector.

Claim 6. (previously presented) The method of claim 5, wherein the step of utilizing a second electronic article surveillance detector, includes the step of utilizing the second electronic article surveillance detector that is associated with a bagwell of the self checkout.

Claim 7. (previously presented) The method of claim 5, wherein the step of utilizing a second electronic article surveillance detector, includes the step of utilizing the second electronic article surveillance detector that is associated with a security scale of the self checkout.

Claim 8. (previously presented) A self checkout comprising:
a scanner operative to scan an item;
an electronic article surveillance detector operative to detect whether a successfully scanned item has an active electronic article surveillance tag; and

an electronic article surveillance deactivator operative to deactivate the active electronic article surveillance tag after determining by the electronic article surveillance detector that a scanned item has the active electronic article surveillance tag.

Claim 9. (original) The self checkout of claim 8, wherein the electronic article surveillance detector is associated with the scanner.

Claim 10. (original) The self checkout of claim 8, further comprising a second electronic article surveillance detector that is operative to determine whether the electronic article surveillance tag has been deactivated by the electronic article surveillance deactivator.

Claim 11. (original) The self checkout of claim 10, wherein the second electronic article surveillance detector is associated with a bagwell of the self checkout.

Claim 12. (original) The self checkout of claim 10, wherein the second electronic article surveillance detector is associated with a security scale of the self checkout.

Claim 13. (previously presented) The self checkout of claim 8, wherein the electronic article surveillance detector comprises a coil and electronic circuitry/logic that is operative to obtain a signal from the coil indicative of the active electronic article surveillance tag.

Claim 14. (original) The self checkout of claim 13, wherein the coil and electronic circuitry/logic are modular.

Claim 15. (previously presented) A self checkout comprising:

a processor;

a scanner in communication with the processor;

an electronic article surveillance detector in communication with the processor;

an electronic article surveillance deactivator; and

a memory in communication with the processor and storing program instructions which, when executed by the processor, causes the processor to: (a) allow scanning of an item for purchase via the scanner, (b) determine, after successful scanning of the item, whether the item has an active electronic article surveillance tag via the electronic article surveillance detector, and (c) allow deactivation of the active electronic article surveillance tag after determining that the item includes an electronic article surveillance tag.

Claim 16. (original) The self checkout of claim 15, wherein the electronic article surveillance detector is associated with the scanner.

Claim 17. (original) The self checkout of claim 15, further comprising a second electronic article surveillance detector, and the memory has further program instructions which, when executed by the processor, causes the processor to determine via the second

article surveillance detector whether the electronic article surveillance tag has been deactivated by the electronic article surveillance deactivator.

Claim 18. (original) The self checkout of claim 17, wherein the second electronic article surveillance detector is associated with a bagwell of the self checkout.

Claim 19. (original) The self checkout of claim 17, wherein the second electronic article surveillance detector is associated with a security scale of the self checkout.

Claim 20. (previously presented) The self checkout of claim 15, wherein the electronic article surveillance detector comprises a coil and electronic circuitry/logic, and the memory has further program instructions which, when executed by the processor, causes the processor to cause the electronic circuitry/logic obtain a signal from the coil indicative of the active electronic article surveillance tag.

Claim 21. (new) A method of operating a checkout terminal comprising:
scanning an item with a scanner;
determining that the scanned item has an electronic article surveillance tag;
allowing, after the step of determining, deactivation of the electronic article; and
disabling the scanner from scanning other items based upon the step of
determining.

Claim 22. (new) The method of claim 21, further comprising:

activating an indicia identifying the location of an active electronic article surveillance tag deactivator; and wherein the step of allowing further comprises allowing deactivation of the electronic article surveillance tag with an active electronic article surveillance tag deactivator.

Claim 23. (new) The method of claim 21, wherein the determining comprises determining that the item has an electronic article surveillance tag with a first electronic article surveillance tag detector.

Claim 24. (new) The method of claim 23, further comprising:

verifying, with a second electronic article surveillance tag detector, that the electronic article surveillance tag has been deactivated.

Claim 25. (new) The method of claim 21, wherein the disabling comprises disabling the scanner from scanning other items until the electronic article surveillance tag has been deactivated.

Claim 26. (new) The method of claim 21, further comprising:

indicating that an intervention is needed if the electronic article surveillance tag has not been deactivated within a predetermined time of allowing the deactivation.

Claim 27. (new) The method of claim 21, further comprising:

detecting the electronic article surveillance tag with an electronic article
surveillance tag detector located in a bagging area of the terminal; and

indicating that an intervention is needed if the electronic article surveillance tag
has not been deactivated within a predetermined time of allowing the deactivation.